

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STATE 085920
ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-20 /082 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/SE:MCFINROW:LB
APPROVED BY EUR/REBARBOUR
EUR/SE:RCEWING

-----094675 040938Z /15

R 040204Z APR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI

UNCLAS STATE 085920

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS:SHUM, TU, GR, PEPR,

SUBJECT:SITUATION OF THE ECUMENICAL PATRIARCHATE

REF: STATE 055993

1. FOR YOUR INFORMATION, THERE FOLLOWS TEXT OF LETTER DEPARTMENT IS CURRENTLY USING TO RESPOND TO CONGRESSIONAL AND PRIVATE INQUIRIES CONCERNING THE ECUMENICAL PATRIARCHATE AND OTHER GREEK ORTHODOX PROBLEMS IN ISTANBUL.

A. QUOTE: I AM WRITING TO PROVIDE INFORMATION IN RESPONSE TO YOUR REQUEST CONCERNING THE ALLEGED TURKISH GOVERNMENT HARASSMENT OF THE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH, ECUMENICAL PATRIARCHATE, AND GREEK COMMUNITY IN ISTANBUL.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 085920

B. AT THE REQUEST OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, THE AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL IN ISTANBUL RECENTLY REPORTED THAT ON MARCH 9, TWO DAYS AFTER MEETING WITH A DELEGATION FROM THE ORTHODOX ECUMENICAL PATRIARCHATE, TURKISH PRIME MINISTER ECEVIT ANNOUNCED THAT HE HAD SET UP A MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE TO DEAL WITH THE PROBLEMS OF ETHNIC GREEKS IN TURKEY. HE ALSO SAID THAT THE FOLLOWING ISSUES WOULD BE OR HAD ALREADY

BEEN RESOLVED:

(1) CHURCH OFFICIALS WHO HAVE HAD DIFFICULTY IN GETTING

PASSPORTS FOR TRAVEL ABROAD WILL BE ISSUED PASSPORTS IMMEDIATELY.

(2) ADJUSTMENTS WILL BE MADE IN CLASSIFICATION OF CERTAIN CHURCH AND COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS (WHICH PRESUMABLY WILL ALTER THEIR TAX STATUS AND ALLEVIATE THEIR FINANCIAL PROBLEMS).

(3) QUALIFIED CANDIDATES FOR VACANT POSITIONS AS PRINCIPALS OF GREEK PRIVATE SCHOOLS WILL BE APPOINTED AS SOON AS THEIR NAMES ARE PROVIDED.

(4) INSPECTION FEES PAID TO THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT'S DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF FOUNDATIONS BY GREEK COMMUNITY INSTITUTIONS WILL BE REDUCED, OR INsofar AS POSSIBLE, ELIMINATED.

(5) PERMISSION FOR RESTORATION WORK ON PATRIARCHATE AND OTHER GREEK COMMUNITY BUILDINGS WILL BE SYMPATHETICALLY CONSIDERED.

C. BOTH THE DEPARTMENT AND THE CONSULATE GENERAL IN UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 085920

ISTANBUL WILL CONTINUE CAREFULLY TO FOLLOW THE SITUATION OF THE GREEK COMMUNITY IN TURKEY. END QUOTE.

2. DEPARTMENT APPRECIATES TIMELY AND FULL REPORTING ON THIS SUBJECT WHICH HAS BEEN VERY HELPFUL IN DEALING WITH INQUIRIES TO DATE. WOULD APPRECIATE CONTINUED REPORTING ON SUBJECT AS DEVELOPMENTS WARRANT. VANCE

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TEXT, HARASSMENT, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, MINORITIES, RELIGIOUS GROUPS, GREEK ORTHODOX
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE085920
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: MCFINROW:LB
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780144-1100
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780494/aaaadbxo.tel
Line Count: 101
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 8b1b7db6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 55993
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3079190
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SITUATION OF THE ECUMENICAL PATRIARCHATE
TAGS: SHUM, PEPR, TU, GR, US
To: ISTANBUL
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/8b1b7db6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014